

SPEAKER WITHEM: The motion is the adoption of the E & R amendments. All in favor say aye. Opposed. They are adopted. Senator Schimek, were you seeking recognition?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I would just like permission to just update the members of the body on the bill just briefly before we go on.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Normal procedure, there's a white button there on your...(Laughter.) Senator Schimek, to...let's get Senator McKenzie to make the motion, and then it will be open for debate.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator McKenzie.

SENATOR MCKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I move LB 944 be advanced to E & R for engrossment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: You've heard the motion, it is debatable. Senator Schimek, pardon me for being flippant. Go right ahead with your introduction.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: It's okay, we need a little levity in here today, I think. I'm not going to take much time because we are limited in time, and I do believe that if we don't consider this bill now, today, and it drops to the bottom of Select File list, that there is every chance that we will never discuss it again. You have in front of you an update on 944 which tells you basically what we did the other night in conjunction with what was already in the bill. And it's...we are prohibiting PACs, principals and lobbyists from making contributions to the Legislature, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Auditor, Treasurer, Secretary of State and Attorney General while the Legislature is in session and extends the period, in the case of a Governor, to the five days of bill signing. It does require lobbyists and principals to separately report the portion of lobbying expenses spent directly on members of the Legislature. And let me clarify that a little bit. Right now when expenses are reported, entertaining expenses are not separated out for senators. The bill originally asked that it be done by senator, by each lobbyist, but the amendment takes it back one step and says that the lobbyist will report on the aggregate amount of expenses spent directly on members of the Legislature. The bill